

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

B/1178 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (Mr. Barbier)

To ask Dr. The Honourable Minister of Agro Industry and Fisheries

Whether, in regard to the aquaculture projects, he will state the number of sites identified island wise for fish farming, indicating (a) the projects which will be set up and the time frame for their implementation and (b) the number of applications received and for which regions?

REPLY

Mr. Speaker Sir,

1. The number of sites identified island wise in the Aquaculture Masterplan for fish farming are as follows:

- a) 6 sites have been identified for inland aquaculture using sea water;
- b) 2 sites for inland aquaculture using freshwater;
- c) 12 sites in the lagoon of Mahebourg; and
- d) 6 sites for offshore aquaculture.

2. However, in the amendments to the Fisheries and Marine Resources Act only eight fish farming zones have been earmarked for development.

3. With regard to part (a) of the question no other project has been set up in addition to the existing ones operated by the Ferme Marine

de Mahebourg Ltd in the lagoon and one inland at the ex-La La Ferme Fish Farm Experimental Station.

4. As for part (b) I am informed by the Board of Investment (BOI) that three applications have been received for floating fish cage culture at sea so far. However the three projects will have to be resubmitted in line with the guidelines for fish farming being developed by the Board of Investment together with the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Environment and National Development Unit, the Board of Investment, the Ministry of Housing and Lands and my Ministry taking into account the sustainability and protection of the environment.

